

**SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY**

4255 PACIFIC AVENUE, SUITE 2  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95207  
TELEPHONE (209) 956-0150  
FAX (209) 956-0154  
E-MAIL Jherrlaw@aol.com

**Directors:**

Jerry Robinson, Chairman  
Robert K. Ferguson, Vice-Chairman  
Natalino Bacchetti, Secretary  
Jack Alvarez  
Mary Hildebrand

**Engineer:**

Alex Hildebrand  
Counsel & Manager:  
John Herrick

February 7, 2006

Colonel Ronald N. Light  
District Engineer  
Sacramento District  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 "J" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Colonel Light:

This letter conveys the South Delta Water Agency's intent to participate in feasibility studies and/or other actions in the development of levee improvements, flood management practices, and eco restoration projects as outlined in their "San Joaquin Flood Conveyance Plan - June 20, 2004" as the non-Federal sponsor consistent with the CALFED Bay-Delta Authorization Act (Public Law 108-361). More specifically, it is seeking assistance with Phase One implementation of specific projects as outlined below.

The levees surrounding the Stark Tract (R. D. 2089) located at the northwest junction of Old River, Paradise Cut, Doughty Cut, Salmon Slough, Sugar Cut, and Fabian/Grant Line Canal are in need of raising and widening. In addition, there is also a need for erosion protection and/or some levee widening on Fabian (R. D. 0773), Union (R. D. 0001), and Pescadero (R. D. 2058). These improvements were identified as part of the SDWA - South Delta Flood Conveyance Plan.

The adjacent waterways (Old River, Paradise Cut, Doughty Cut, Salmon Slough, Sugar Cut, and Fabian/Grant Line Canal) are in need of dredging. Removal of approximately 1.2 million cubic yards would deepen the waterways by six to eight feet. These waterways were previously dredged as part of the historic Paradise Cut bypass with the spoils deposited on adjacent islands. It would be SDWA's intention to process these spoils on adjacent islands and then use them for the Stark, Fabian, and Pescadero levee improvements. Attached are mapped locations and photos. Having completed dredge spoil processing, the islands would be restored and eco redeveloped as seasonal wetlands and potentially Riparian Brush Rabbit and multi-species habitat.

Colonel Ronald N. Light  
February 7, 2006  
Page Two

The Stark Tract plays a pivotal flood control role in the area as it is separated from Union Island R. D. 1 and 2 by a low interior island levee. A breach of Stark would result in thousands of acres of prime farmland on the adjacent reclamation districts to be flooded. Therefore, levee improvements on Stark are of great community benefit.

The South Delta Water Agency understands that the type, cost, and scope of actions will be determined and specified later if selected for development and/or implementation pursuant to the Act. The Agency also understands that if our project is approved for implementation, we will be responsible for sharing the cost of planning, designing, and implementation of the project with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; providing all necessary lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, excluding railroads, and suitable borrow and dredged or excavated material disposal areas; and accomplishing operations, maintenance, repair, and replacement and rehabilitation of the project.

At this time, we estimate that dredging, creation of de-watering ponds, easements, rights-of-way, regulatory approvals, application of rip-rap, and placement of the dredge spoils on the levees would total approximately 60 million dollars.

Please note that this letter of intent is not an obligation of funds. We look forward to working with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State of California, and other pertinent CALFED agencies and stakeholders on this important project.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (209) 956-0150, fax (209) 956-0154, or e-mail [Jherrlaw@aol.com](mailto:Jherrlaw@aol.com).

Very truly yours,



JOHN HERRICK

JH/dd

Enclosures:

- (1) Maps of local area and improvements identified
- (2) Photos of area

**SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ISLANDS & LEVEES, CA  
CALFED LEVEE SYSTEM INTEGRITY PROGRAM**

**REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR EACH POTENTIAL INITIAL PROJECT**

**Name and Purpose of Potential Initial Project:** South Delta Water Agency – South Delta Flood Conveyance Plan – Phase 1 – Levee improvements to Reclamation Districts RD0001, RD0773, RD2089, RD1007 and RD2058 along with the dredging of the adjacent waterways including Grantline/Fabian Canal, Doughty Cut, Sugar Cut, Old River, Salmon Slough and lower Paradise Cut.

**Location:** See maps and illustrations attached.

**Problems:** The waterways have silted up considerably since previous dredging and some levees require strengthening, heightening and erosion protection as part of the "Conveyance Plan", in particular the Stark Tract RD2089.

**Opportunities:** The waterways adjacent (Old River, Paradise Cut, Dowdy Cut, Salmon Slough, Sugar Cut and Fabian/Grantline Canal) are in need of dredging. Removal of approximately 1.2 million cu.yards would deepen the waterways by 6 to 8 ft. These waterways were previously dredged as part of the historic Paradise Cut bypass with the spoils deposited on adjacent islands. It would be SDWA's intention to process the spoils on adjacent islands and use them for the Stark, Fabian and Pescadero levee improvements. Attached are mapped locations and photos. Having completed dredge spoil processing the islands would be restored and eco redeveloped as seasonal wetlands and potential Riparian Brush Rabbit habitat as well as multi species habitat.

**Project Description:** The overall project is outlined in concept in the "South Delta Water Agency – South Delta Flood Conveyance Plan" which has already undergone a "Reconnaissance Study" by the USACE and is awaiting matching funds to move forward with a feasibility study. SDWA understands these funds, \$150,000 are now available. The Phase 1 implementation identified here would remove approx. 1.2 million cu. yards of sediment and utilize these dredge spoils for adjacent levee improvements and the construction of improved habitat for potential endangered species known to reside upstream.

**Statement of Willingness and Ability to Cost Share:** "South Delta Water Agency – South Delta Flood Conveyance Plan" has limited ability to participate and cost share with the Federal Government at this time. However, SDWA will be entering into a JPA with RD 2062 in the near future which could provide initial share funds. A Letter of Intent to cost share could be forthcoming assuming some State assistance.

**Point of Contact & Agency Affiliation:** John Herrick – SDWA Legal Counsel and Manager (209) 956-0150, FAX (209) 956-0154 or E-MAIL Jherlaw@aol.com)

## **SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ISLANDS & LEVEES, CA CALFED LEVEE SYSTEM INTEGRITY PROGRAM**

### **Scoping & Screening Information:**

- In your opinion, what is the urgency for your proposed project? Is there an imminent threat to life, property, critical habitat, or other prominent resource?

*It is critical to begin planning and implementation of Phase 1 as the failure of Stark Tract in an event such as 1997 would inundate thousands of acres of highly productive farm land both in Stark Tract and by flooding beyond Stark Tract into Union Island.*

- Would there be a change in the magnitude, frequency, or duration of flood flows in other areas of the levee system as a result of the potential project?

*Phase 1 is part of the Conveyance Plan to shift flood flows from the San Joaquin River away from RD 17 Mossdale and the City of Stockton to Paradise Cut and the Old River system.*

- What would the proposed project do to address flooding, ecosystem, water supply and quality, and other problems and needs locally and regionally?

*The comprehensive nature of the Project would address all these issues.*

- Are there non-structural or other ways to address flooding, ecosystem, water supply and quality, and other problems in the potential project area and if so what are they?

*Not really. Structural improvements are needed to return the system to it's original design flows.*

- Who and/or what would benefit from the potential project?

*The entire San Joaquin River System for irrigation and water supply.*

- What is the likely Federal, State and local agency support?

*There is already Federal, State and local agency support for these improvements.*

- Are there any known challenges or obstacles that may delay rapid development and implementation of your potential project?




*Dredging entitlement in the Delta is always a challenge along with the closed windows for implementation.*

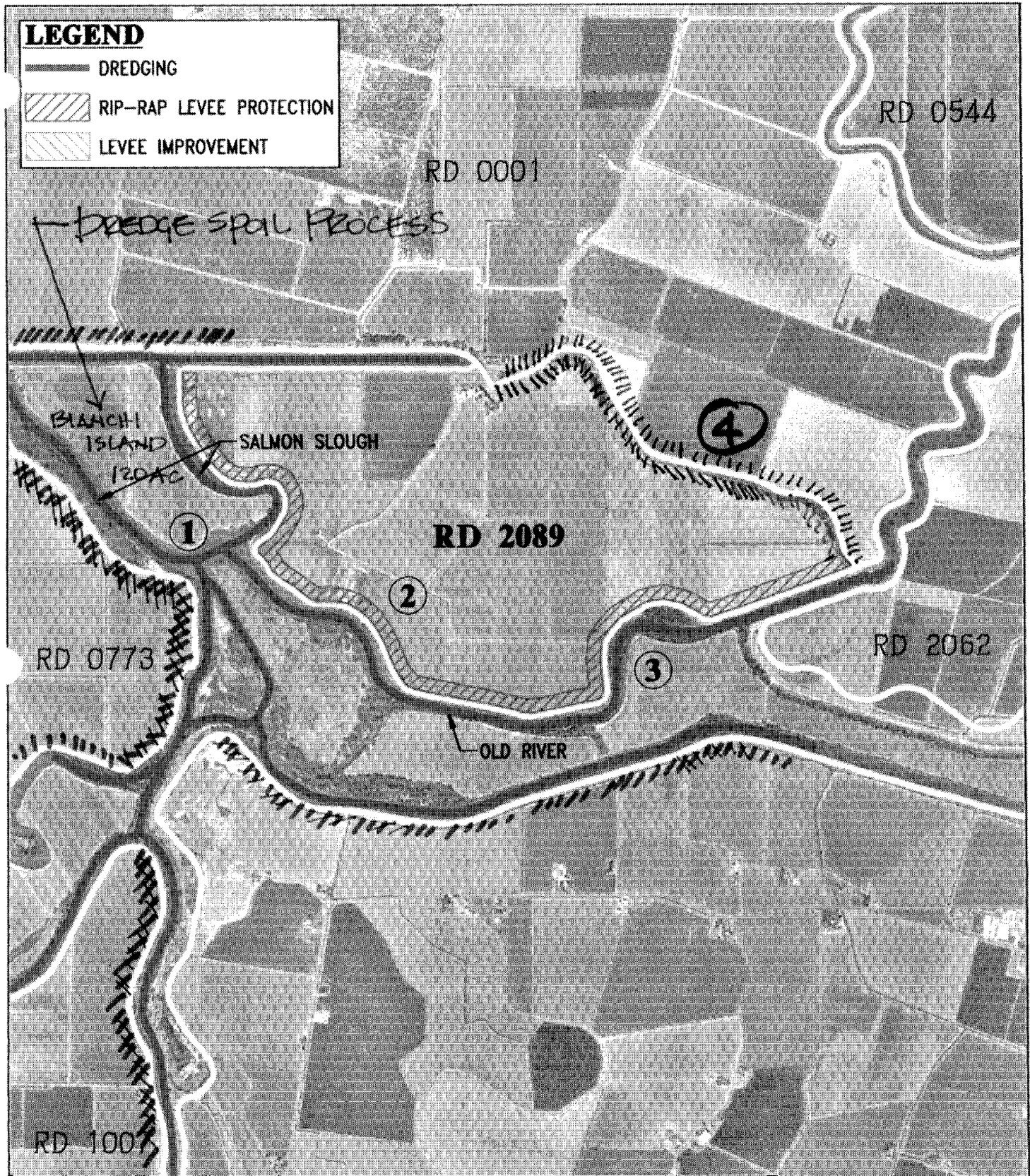
- Is your agency ready, willing, and able to serve as a non-Federal sponsor for this potential project, and able to provide required cost-sharing and other assurances?



***SDWA is willing to serve as a non-Federal sponsor and could have the potential to provide the required cost-sharing and other assurances with State assistance?***

## LEGEND

-  DREDGING
-  RIP-RAP LEVEE PROTECTION
-  LEVEE IMPROVEMENT



## RECLAMATION DISTRICT 2089



Carlson, Barbee  
& Gibson, Inc.

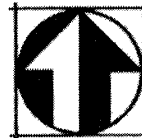
CIVIL ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS • PLANNERS

2603 Camino Ramon, Suite 100 • San Ramon, CA 94583  
925-866-0322 • fax 925-866-8575  
www.cbarg.com

0 1000 2000 3000 4000

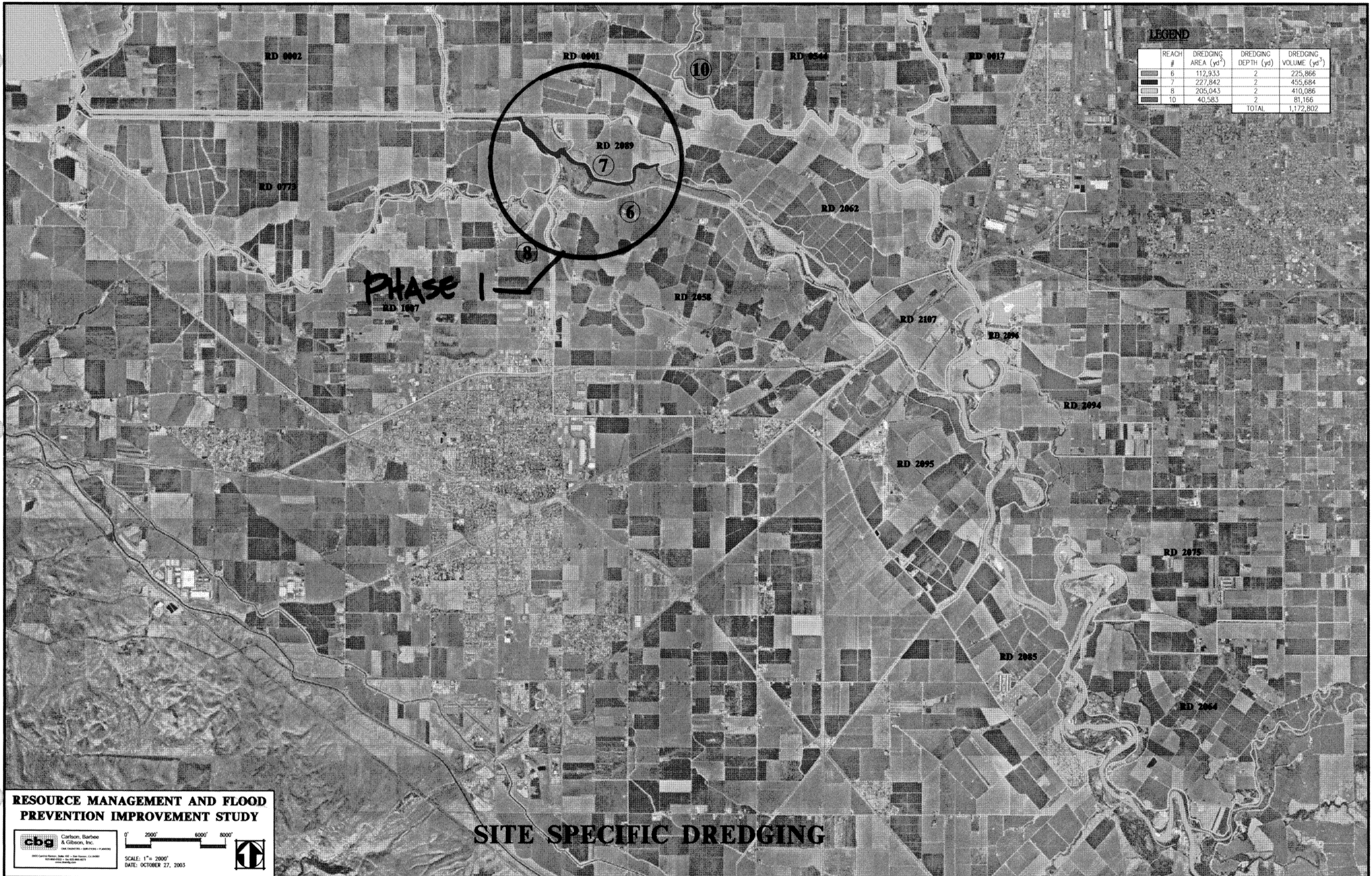


SCALE: 1"=2000'



DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2004





LEGEND

REACH #	DREDGING AREA (yd <sup>2</sup> )	DREDGING DEPTH (yd)	DREDGING VOLUME (yd <sup>3</sup> )
6	112,933	2	225,866
7	227,842	2	455,684
8	205,043	2	410,086
10	40,583	2	81,166
TOTAL			1,172,802

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND FLOOD PREVENTION IMPROVEMENT STUDY

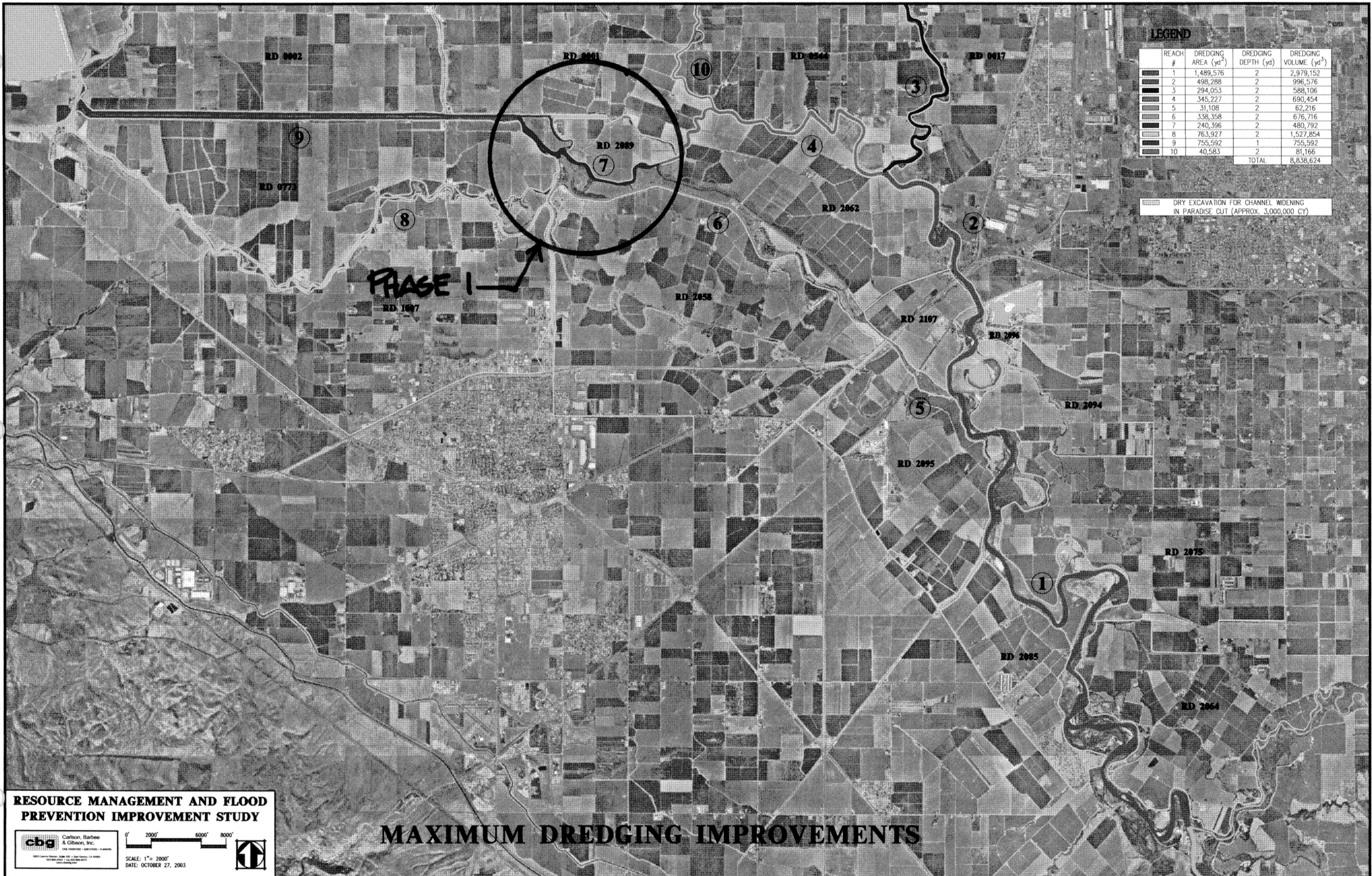


SCALE: 1" = 2000'  
DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2003



SITE SPECIFIC DREDGING





LEGEND			
REACH #	DREDGING AREA (yd <sup>2</sup> )	DREDGING DEPTH (yd)	DREDGING VOLUME (yd <sup>3</sup> )
1	1,489,576	2	2,979,152
2	498,288	2	996,576
3	294,053	2	588,106
4	345,227	2	690,454
5	31,108	2	62,216
6	338,358	2	676,716
7	240,396	2	480,792
8	763,927	2	1,527,854
9	755,592	1	755,592
10	40,583	2	81,166
TOTAL			8,836,624

DRY EXCAVATION FOR CHANNEL WIDENING IN PARADISE CUT (APPROX. 3,000,000 CY)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND FLOOD PREVENTION IMPROVEMENT STUDY

**cbg** Carlson, Barbee & Gibson, Inc.  
1000 Highway 99, Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95128  
408.261.1111 • Fax 408.261.1112  
www.carlsonbarbee.com

0' 2000' 6000' 8000'  
SCALE: 1" = 2000'  
DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2003



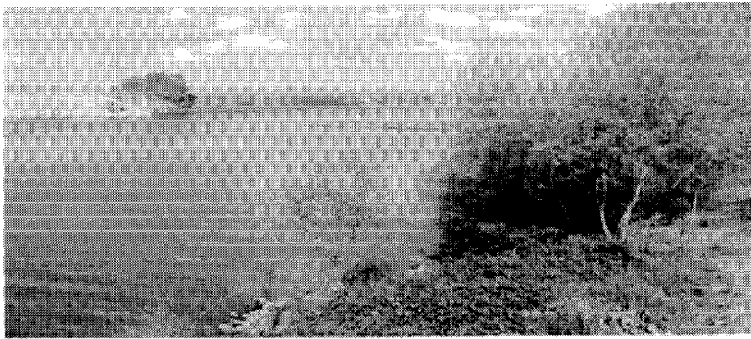
MAXIMUM DREDGING IMPROVEMENTS



## **South Delta Flood Conveyance Plan - Phase 1 Improvements**



**Grant Line Canal Barrier under construction at Tracy Blvd.**



**Grant Line Canal Rip Rapping.**

Rip Rap North bank of Grant Line Canal at the intersection of Salmon Slough and Dowdy Cut to prevent bank erosion under flood conditions.



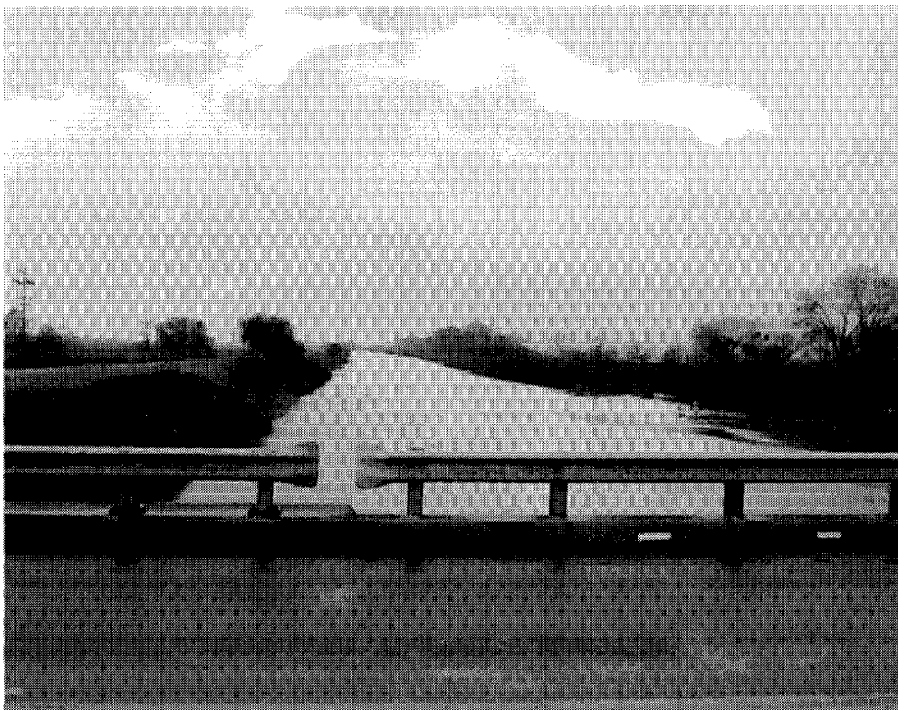
**RD 2089 levee at Salmon Slough**

Broaden and heighten levee around Stark Tract using dredge spoils from adjacent waterways such as Salmon Slough and Dowdy Cut.



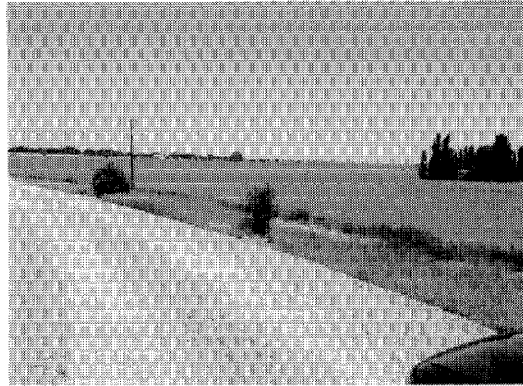
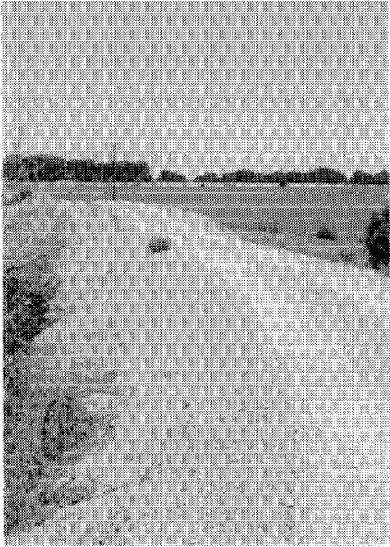
**Old River looking East from Tracy Blvd.**

Strengthen Old River Levees East of Tracy Blvd and provide additional rip rap for erosion protection.



**Grant Line Canal looking East from Tracy Blvd.**

Dredge Grant Line/Fabian Canals East to provide agricultural water storage, navigational depth and dredge spoils for levee improvements



### **Dry Land levee between Stark Tract and Union 1 Island**

Strengthen, broaden and heighten dry land Levee to provide added protection for Union Tracts 1 and 2.



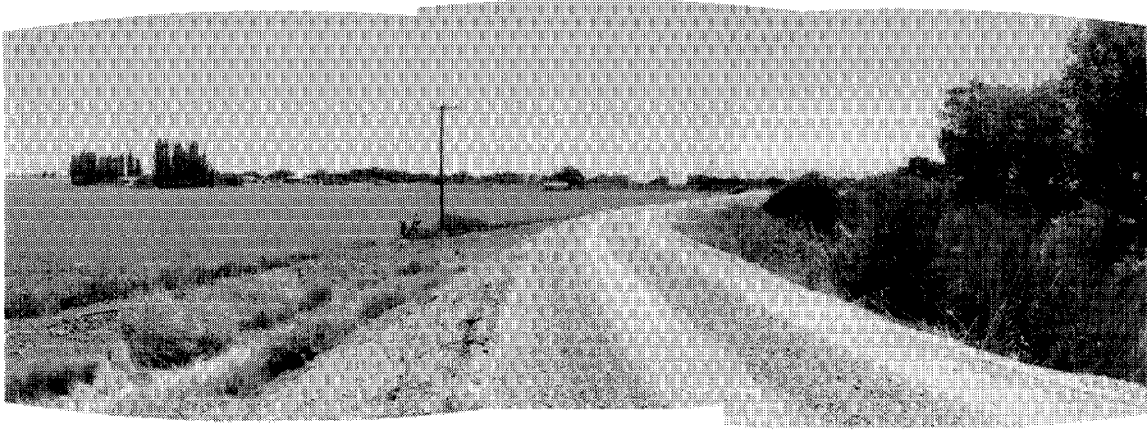
### **Stark Tract levee on Salmon Slough**

Strengthen, broaden and heighten Salmon Slough Levee



### **Stark Tract levee on Salmon Slough adjacent Bianchi Island**

Strengthen, broaden and heighten dry land Levee to provide added protection for Union Tracts 1 and 2.



### **Stark Tract levee on Salmon Slough**

Strengthen, broaden and heighten Salmon Slough Levee



### **Stak Tract Levee adjacent Fabian Canal East**

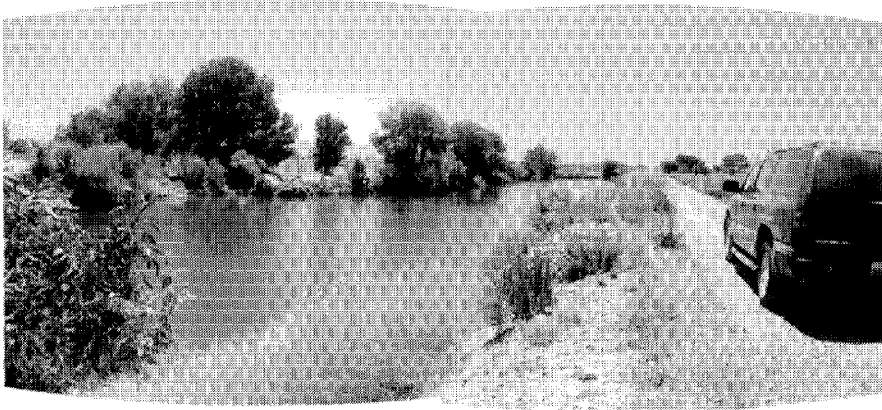
Strengthen Old River Levee and provide additional rip rap



### **Bianchi Island on Dowdy Cut**

Bianchi Island is well situated to serve as a dredge spoil processing area adjacent to Stark Tract. It would ultimately be improved and become a significant Eco restoration site for a variety of endangered species.





**Stark Tract levee on old river adjacent NW Stewart Tract**

Strengthen, broaden and heighten dry land Levee to provide added protection for Union Tracts 1 and 2.



**Dowdy Cut looking North from Old River and Sugar Cut**

Dredge Dowdy Cut and Salmon Slough North to provide agricultural water storage, navigational depth and dredge spoils for adjacent levee improvements